

Useful Telephone Numbers:

LOCAL WATER AGENCIES

WEST BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

(310) 217-2411 • www.westbasin.com/

CENTRAL BASIN WATER MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

(310) 217-2222 • www.centralbasin.com/

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT

(213) 217-6000 • www.mwdh2o.com
www.bewaterwise.com/

LONG BEACH WATER DEPARTMENT

(562) 570-2300 • www.ci.long-beach.ca.us/water/index.html

LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER

(800) 342-5397 • www.ladwp.com

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

(213) 576-6600 • www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb4/

STATE WATER AGENCIES

CALIFORNIA WATER RESOURCES AGENCY

(916) 653-5656 • wwwdwr.water.ca.gov/

OFFICE OF WATER EDUCATION

(916) 653-6192 <http://wwwowe.water.ca.gov/>

Compliments of

Alan Lowenthal

ASSEMBLYMEMBER, 54TH DISTRICT

District Office:

115 Pine Avenue
Suite 430
Long Beach, CA 90802
(562) 495-4766

Capitol Office:

P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0054
(916) 319-2054



E-mail: assemblymember.Lowenthal@assembly.ca.gov

Ways to save our water



**A guide for
conserving
water
at home**



California State Assembly

ALAN LOWENTHAL
FIFTY-FOURTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Dear Friend,

Throughout California's history, water has been a vital but scarce natural resource. Water is essential for supporting business and industry, for irrigating millions of acres of farmlands, for maintaining our environment, and for providing recreation and water for daily use to the people who live here. California's population is projected to increase to 49 million people by 2020. As California's population grows, managing and sharing our limited water supply will become more important than ever.

People often feel their individual efforts to conserve water will not make a difference. By following the simple water saving tips in this pamphlet, your household can save thousands of gallons of water each month. I hope this information will be of assistance in proving that saving water in your household will not only help preserve California's water resources, but also serve as an example to others.

If there is any way that I can further assist you in conserving water in your home, please do not hesitate to contact me — it would be my privilege to help.

Sincerely,

Alan Lowenthal
Assemblymember, 54th District

Ways to save water INDOORS:

- Never put water down the drain when there is another use for it such as watering plants or cleaning. Use buckets or pots to capture warm-up water from shower, sink or bath.
- Verify that your home is leak free. Read your water meter before and after a two-hour period when water is not being used. If the meter does not read the same, there is a leak.
- Repair dripping faucets. This can save up to 20 gallons a day per leak.
- Insulate your water pipes. You will get hot water more quickly and avoid wasting water while it heats up.
- Fully load dishwasher and washing machines. If you wash small loads, be sure to adjust the setting accordingly.
- When washing dishes by hand, fill the sink with soapy water. Then quickly rinse under a slow-moving stream from the faucet or fill second sink with rinse water.
- Rinse vegetables in a filled sink or pan instead of under running water.
- Do not use running water to defrost frozen foods. Use the microwave or leave food in the refrigerator overnight.
- Store drinking water in the refrigerator instead of waiting for tap water to cool.
- Use the garbage disposal less. Disposals require a lot of water to operate properly.
- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth. Use a glass of water for rinsing. This can save several gallons of water each day.
- When shaving, fill the bottom of the sink with water for use when rinsing.
- Install water-saving shower heads or flow restrictors.



- Take shorter showers or only fill the bathtub 1/3 of the way full.
- When adjusting water temperatures, turn water flow down instead of up.
- Flush the toilet less often. Throw tissues and other such waste in the trash.
- Check your toilet for leaks. Put a few drops of food coloring in the tank. If color appears in the bowl without flushing, there is a leak.
- Replace or repair your toilet handle if it sticks. This will prevent the water from running constantly.
- Put a displacement bag, brick or plastic bottle in your toilet tank. This will reduce the amount of flushed water without reducing toilet efficiency.
- Install an ultra-low-flush toilet. This can cut the amount of water that goes down the drain about 50% each flush.

Ways to save water OUTDOORS:

- Plant drought resistant trees and plants. Once established they do not need to be watered as frequently.
- Water lawn and plants in the morning or evening to avoid evaporation.
- Do not water your street, driveway or sidewalk. Use a broom to clean these areas. Position sprinklers so water lands on lawn and plants not paved areas.
- Use a hose with a shut-off nozzle, which can be adjusted down to a fine spray. Turn it off at the faucet to avoid leaks.
- Do not leave sprinklers or hoses unattended. Your hose can pour out nearly 600 gallons of water in two hours.
- Raise the lawnmower blade to at least 3 inches. Taller grass holds water better.
- Use mulch to retain moisture in soil.



- Avoid over-fertilizing your lawn. Fertilizers increase the need for water. Apply fertilizers that contain slow-release, water insoluble forms of nitrogen.
- Consider using a commercial car wash that recycles water. If you wash your own car, park on the grass to do so.
- If you have a swimming pool, consider using a new water-saving pool filter. Install covers on pools and spas to cut down on evaporation.

Daily checklist for saving water:

Use these simple tips to make conserving water in your home a habit

- ✓ Do not keep water running while shaving, brushing teeth or washing dishes.
- ✓ Only use dishwasher and washing machine when completely full.
- ✓ Do not use your toilet as a wastebasket.
- ✓ Water your lawn in the morning or evening.
- ✓ Do not use running water to defrost frozen foods.
- ✓ Keep drinking water in the refrigerator.
- ✓ Check for leaky faucets, pipes and toilets.
- ✓ Take shorter showers or baths filled only 1/3 full.
- ✓ Make sure your pool or spa is covered.
- ✓ Use your garbage disposal less.
- ✓ Do not leave hoses and sprinklers unattended.
- ✓ Make sure not to water paved areas.
- ✓ Use a shut-off nozzle on your hose.
- ✓ Step on your grass, if it bounces back it does not need water.
- ✓ Never put water down the drain, find another use for it.